## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 DHA-02 SSO-00 SS-15 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 /046 W

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O 292032Z APR 77 FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3762

CONFIDENTIAL MONTEVIDEO 1658

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: SHUM, UY SUBJ: JEWISH ARRESTS

REFS: STATE 96970, STATE 90408, MONTEVIDEO 1257

- 1. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR OFRI INFORMED CHARGE THAT HE HAS LITTLE TO ADD ON ARRESTS OF MEMBERS OF TH JEWISH COMMUNITY BEYOND THAT ALREADY REPORTED. HE CONFIRMED THAT SEVERAL OF THOSE ARRESTED WERE AFFILIATED WITH THE MUTUALISTA ISRAELITA, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS A LLEFTIST INSTITUTION. THE AMBASSADOR SAID IT IS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT ALL OF THE PERSONS CONCERNED ARE STILL UNDER ARREST AND CONFINED IN THE PREFECTURA NAVAL.
- 2. THE AMBASSADOR HAS NOT VISITED THE PRISONERS FOR THE REASONS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. HE ALSO STATED THAT HE IS UNAWARE OF ANY FAMILY MEMBERS BEING PERMITTED TO VISIT THEM. ON OF THE PRISONERS IS A DUAL AUSTRIAN-URUGUAYAN NATIONAL, AND THE AUSTRIAN CONSUL HERE IS REPORTED TO BE READY TO ISSUE HIM AN AUSTRIAN PASSPORT SHOULD HE BE RELEASED AND SHOULD HE WISH TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. HOWEVER, THE AUSTRIAN CONSUL HAS NOT VISITED THE PRISONER AND DOES NOT INTEND TO DO SO.
- 3. AMBASSADOR OFRI SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED WITH FAMILY CONFIDENTIAL.

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MEMBERS AND LEADERS OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY THE POSSIBILITY OF APPLICATION OF THE LAW OF RETURN TO ISRAEL FOR THE PRISONERS. HOWEVER, THIS WOULD MEAN THAT THE ENTIRE FAMILY, INCLUDING THE PRISONER, WOULD BE REPATRIATED TO ISRAEL. DESPITE THIS, NONE OF THE FAMILIES CONCERNED HAS APPROACHED THE AMBASSADOR ASKING THAT HE ATTEMPT TO INITIATE THE PROCEDURE WHICH

## POSSIBLY MIGHT LEAD TO A RELEASE.

- 4. AMBASSADOR OFRI WAS ASKED ABOUT RABBI ROSENTHAL'S STATEMENT THAT JEWISH PRISONERS ARE RECEIVING HARSHER TREATMENT THAN NON-JEWISH. THE AMBASSADOR COMMENTED THAT THIS MIGHT BE THE CASE, BUT HE HAS NO INFORMATION THAT IT IS AND, IF IT WERE, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PROVE. HE DOUBTED, HOWEVER, THAT IF THE CHARGE WERE TRUE THAT IT REPRESENTED A CONSCIOUS OVERALL POLICY, BUT RATHER MIGHT BE THE CASE WITH RESPECT TO INDIVIDUAL INTERROGATION OFFICERS AND OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL.
- 5. WE HAVE NO FURTHER INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN INDEPENDENT SOURCES CONCERNING THESE PHISONERS, THE CONDITIONS OF THEIR DETENTION, OR THEIR TREATMENT. HAAHR

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## Message Attributes

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